



National Center for Safe Routes to School Seeks Applications for \$1,000 Grants
Call for Applications for Spring 2011 Activities

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (Oct. 25, 2010) — The National Center for Safe Routes to School is now accepting applications for 25 mini-grants of \$1,000 each. These mini-grants support the goal of the federal Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, which is to enable and encourage children to safely walk and bicycle to school. They will fund activities that range from foundational efforts to help start or sustain a program to new ideas that explore the range of benefits of safe walking and bicycling to school.

“Schools and families across the country are excited by the idea of safe walking and bicycling to school,” says Lauren Marchetti, director of the National Center for Safe Routes to School. “The goal of this program is to catapult that excitement into activities that can help create a culture of walking and bicycling in local neighborhoods and schools.”

The National Center’s SRTS mini-grant program, now in its third award cycle, seeks creative ideas that match a school’s needs and interests together with ways to help improve safety and/or increase the number of students walking and rolling to school. Schools’ needs and interests could encompass a variety of different focus areas, including: addressing distracted driving and personal safety; engaging children with disabilities; emphasizing physical activity and health; exploring environmental concerns; contributing to a positive learning environment; or participating in civic discussion. Specific guidelines for fundable activities are available at www.saferoutesinfo.org/minigrants/eligibleactivities.

With the recent national focus on childhood obesity, mini-grant applicants may wish to consider incorporating goals of the *Let’s Move!* campaign — to increase physical activity and/or empower parents and caregivers — into proposed SRTS mini-grant programs and activities. For more information, visit www.letsmove.gov.

Applications are available now at www.saferoutesinfo.org/minigrants.

Funded activities must occur at an elementary or middle school between January 2011 and the end of the spring 2011 semester. Applications are due Friday, Nov. 19, 2010, by 8 p.m. EST and recipients will be announced January 2011.

For more information and to submit a mini-grant application, visit www.saferoutesinfo.org/minigrants.

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About the National Center for Safe Routes to School

Established in May 2006, the National Center for Safe Routes to School assists states and communities in enabling and encouraging children to safely walk and bicycle to school. The National Center serves as the clearinghouse for the federal Safe Routes to School program. The organization also provides technical support and resources and coordinates online registration efforts and provides technical support and resources for U.S. Walk to School Day and facilitates worldwide promotion and participation. The National Center is part of the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center with funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration. For more information, visit www.saferoutesinfo.org.